

Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish, From 'Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest'

## **OPHIOGLOSSUM PUSILLUM ADDER'S TONGUE**

Adder's Tongue is a perennial that is 10-30 cm high made up of a single leaf-like, sterile blade and an erect, spike-like fertile stalk. The sterile blade is ascending, elliptic to broadly lance-shaped and 2-8 cm long with entire margins, with a rounded to pointed tip. The upper portion of the fertile stalk has 2 rows of contiguous spore-bearing sacs on one side. Producing spores in June - early July; sporophores persisting.

There are no other fern allies in our area with a single entire-margined blade or unbranched fertile stalk.